

and is more or less considerably modified in form. And a more remote analogy is offered by male spiders, in which the tips of the pedipalps are curiously modified and perform the duty of conveying spermatophores to the genital aperture of the female.

My collector has since brought me, from a marsh in the immediate vicinity of the station, specimens of *P. bengalensis*, or a species closely allied thereto, in which also the right tentacle is hooked in the male.

Fig. 1.



Fig. 2.

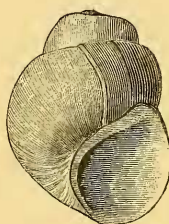


Fig. 3.

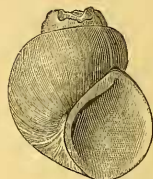


Fig. 4.

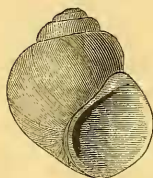


Fig. 5.

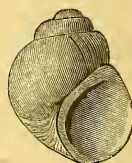


Fig. 1. View of a male *P. crassa*, to show the hooked right tentacle.

Fig. 2. Shell of an aged female of *P. crassa*.

Fig. 3. Shell of an aged male.

Fig. 4. Shell of a female in the prime of life.

Fig. 5. Shell of a male in the prime of life.

Obs. The animals of the two aged specimens have prolonged their body-whorl much beyond the old peristome, corresponding to that of the two in the prime of life.

Silchar, Cachar, April 2, 1881.

IX.—*Description of a new Volute from the South Coast of Australia.* By FREDERICK M'COY, F.R.S., Professor of Natural Science, University of Melbourne.

[Plate VII.]

Voluta Roadnightæ (M'Coy).
(Pl. VII. figs. 1 & 2.)

Descr. Broad fusiform; pullus at apex of spire very large, smooth, spheroidal, oblique, of about $1\frac{1}{3}$ turn; spire conical,

apical angle 65° , of four whorls (besides the pullus); turns of the spire moderately convex; body-whorl obtusely angulated a little below the suture; whorls of the spire crossed by from sixteen to eighteen large obtusely flattened prominent ribs, most prominent towards suture, the intervening spaces between which vary from rather more, on the spire, to much less than their width, on the penultimate whorl; ribs becoming obsolete on body-whorl; sloping angulation of body-whorl and spire near suture marked with about ten cord-like subequal spiral ridges, with coarse parallel striae between them, the intervening spaces twice as wide as the ridges; below or before the spiral striae on body-whorl the surface is only marked by the obtuse irregular lines of growth, until near the anterior extremity, where about eighteen or nineteen spiral ridges similar to those near the suture appear. Outer lip moderately arched, obtusely thickened and reflected; respiratory notch at anterior end moderate. Three or four large oblique plaits on pillar, the hindmost but one largest; inner lip thin, glassy, spreading. Colour pale brownish creamy white, with acutely angular zig-zag, longitudinal, sparse markings of rich raw-sienna brown.

Length 6 inches 5 lines; proportional length of body-whorl $\frac{70}{100}$, of penultimate whorl $\frac{18}{100}$, antepenultimate $\frac{8}{100}$, preceding whorl $\frac{4}{100}$; length of pullus $\frac{4}{100}$, width of pullus $\frac{7}{100}$; diameter of succeeding whorl at suture $\frac{10}{100}$; greatest diameter of body-whorl $\frac{52}{100}$.

This magnificent Volute was found by Mrs. Roadnight, to whom I have had the pleasure of dedicating it, three years ago, when I sent a description and figure for publication, which seem to have been lost, and a copy of which I now forward, as I have recently received several inquiries about this the most striking form among the many Volutes described of late years. In its great size and general aspect it somewhat resembles the fossil *Voluta Hannafordi*, M'Coy*, a fact which did not escape Mrs. Roadnight's notice. It differs, however, in being rather more slender, less angulated, without the conical tubercles of that species, and having the whorls of the spire crossed with narrower obtuse costae. It is not nearly related to any recent species known to me.

Hab. Southern coast of Victoria, the type specimen having been found on the beach at the Lake's Entrance, Gipps Land.

EXPLANATION OF PLATE VII.

Figs. 1 & 2. Back and front views ($\frac{2}{3}$ natural size) of type specimen.

* Prodromus of Palæontology of Victoria, decade i. pl. 6. fig. 1.
Ann. & Mag. N. Hist. Ser. 5. Vol. viii. 7